

International Conference for Renewable Energies, Bonn, June 2004

From 1 to 4 June, 2004, Germany hosted the International Conference for Renewable Energies, as announced by Chancellor Gerhard Schröder at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg.

The conference – known informally as *renewables 2004* – charted the way towards an expansion of renewable energies worldwide. Some 3,600 participants met in Bonn, among them official governmental delegations including energy, environmental and development ministers, representatives of the United Nations and other international and non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector.

renewables 2004 addressed the central issue of how the proportion of renewable energies used in industrialised and developing countries can be substantially increased, and how can the advantages and potential of renewable energies be better used. The conference concentrated on three themes:

- Formation of enabling political framework conditions that allow the market for renewable energies to develop.
- Increasing private and public financing for renewable energy projects.
- Human and institutional capacity building, and coordination and intensification of research and development.

renewables 2004 adopted the following outcomes:

- A short [Political Declaration](#) that contains shared political goals for an increased role of renewable energies and that reflects a joint vision of a sustainable energy future, which provides better and more equitable access to energy as well as increased energy efficiency.
- An [International Action Programme](#), including actions and commitments by governments, international organisations and stakeholders. Responding to the "Call for Actions and Commitments" that was published before renewables 2004, conference participants contributed to the Action Programme with voluntary commitments to goals, targets and actions within their own spheres of responsibility.
- [Policy Recommendations for Renewable Energies](#) that can be of benefit to governments, international organisations and stakeholders as they develop new approaches and political strategies and address the roles and responsibilities of key actors.